

Message Text

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47

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 DRC-01 IO-14 /113 W
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P 211725Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4388

INFO AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

USCINCSO

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

UNCLAS SAN SALVADOR 4734

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: PFOR, ES, HO

SUBJ: HONDURAS/EL SALVADOR: FONMIN ISSUES STATEMENT ON NEGOTIATIONS

REF: STATE 247775

USCINCSO FOR POLAD

1. AT PRESS CONFERENCE DECEMBER 20, FONMIN BORGONOVO RELEASED AN OFFICIAL STATEMENT WHICH CONTAINED A BRIEF PROCEDURAL SUMMARY OF THE FIRST THREE ROUNDS OF NEGOTIATIONS WITH HONDURAS IN MEXICO AND A LENGTHY ACCOUNT OF WHY THE TALKS STALLED AT THE FOURTH AND FINAL ROUND. PRESUMABLY, THIS WAS ALSO THE BASIS FOR GALINDO POHL'S EXPOSITION BEFORE THE COMMITTEE OF SEVEN (REFTEL). STATEMENT HOLDS THAT NEGOTIATIONS IN THE FOURTH ROUND WERE STALEMATED BY HONDURAN INSISTENCE THAT THE GENERAL TREATY UNDER DISCUSSION FOREVERMORE DEFINE THE BORDER AND PROVIDE FOR SUBSEQUENT DEMARCATION ON THE GROUND. EL SALVADOR HAD PREVIOUSLY PROPOSED AT A THIRD-ROUND WORKING GROUP SESSION THAT THE TREATY STIPULATE THE "ORGANS, PRINCIPLES, BASES AND PROCEDURES" FOR SUBSEQUENT DEFINITION AND DEMARCATION OF THE
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BORDER AND PROMISED TO PRESENT A DRAFT INCORPORATING ITS IDEAS

AT THE NEXT ROUND. SALVADOR HOLDS THAT THE HONDURAN PROPOSAL WAS INTRODUCED CONTRARY TO THE RULES OF PROCEDURE GOVERNING THE NEGOTIATIONS AND THAT HONDURAS REFUSED TO PROCEED WITH DISCUSSIONS OF THE OTHER TOPICS ON THE AGREED AGENDA UNTIL THE BORDER ISSUE WAS SETTLED. THE TALKS HALTED AT THIS POINT. STATEMENT CONCLUDES, HOWEVER, THAT CONSIDERABLE VALUABLE WORK WAS DONE AT THE CONFERENCE WHICH WILL SERVE AS THE BASIS FOR ANY ACCORD REACHED WITH HONDURAS IN THE FUTURE AND THAT MANY AREAS OF DISAGREEMENT WERE, IN FACT, RESOLVED DURING THE TALKS.

2. AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE, BORGONOVO ALSO ASSERTED THAT "EL SALVADOR UP THIS THIS MOMENT HAS MADE NO CLAIM TO HONDURAN TERRITORY", AND ASSURANCE EVIDENTLY DESIGNED TO OFFSET EARLIER MEXICAN PRESS REPORTS THAT SUCH CLAIMS HAD BEEN MADE. BORGONOVO ALSO DENIED SPECULATIVE REPORTS FRM MEXICO THAT THE TWO SIDES HAD AGREED TO CONTINUE NEGOTIATIONS IN MAY OR JUNE, ALTHOUGH HE DID NOT RULE OUT THE POSSIBILITY THEM SUCH A PROPOSAL HAD BEEN DISCUSSED INFORMALLY BY THE TWO DELEGATIONS. SPANISH TEXT OF STATEMENT FOLLOWS BY AIRGRAM.
MOSKOWITZ

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